

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Hungary
SUBJECT Airfields of Mátyásföld and Pécs

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Mátyásföld Airfield

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1. The Mátyásföld airfield is located on the eastern periphery of Budapest about one kilometer south of the Budapest-Mátyásföld road and immediately north of the Budapest-Batvan railroad. On the Mátyásföld-Budapest road, in line with the airfield, there is a roadmarker bearing the inscription "10 km to Budapest". On the west, north, and east sides, the field is surrounded by a three-meter wall; on the south it is open, but signs inscribed "entrance prohibited" have been set up. There is no rail connection.

2. Plan of Airfield

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- 1) Three-story building; flat roof; wind sock; yellow walls; dimensions 150 x 40 m

First floor: Guard unit and prisoners; troops' and pilot students' kitchen; officers' mess.

Second floor: Airfield command; company command of student pilots; troop command; administrative offices; motion-picture theatre accommodating approximately 700 persons; storeroom for clothing and provisions; infirmary; telephone exchange; radio station.

Third floor: Troop billets.

- 2) Destroyed hangar in process of reconstruction; masonry walls and tin roof; dimensions 120 x 70 m.
- 3) Metal hangar; sheet-iron roof; wooden sliding doors; dimensions 100 x 70 m; houses 50 Arado and some Russian planes.
- 4) Hangar as above; houses 50 planes.

25 YEAR
RE-REVIEW

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5) Fuel reserves stored in barrels; no enclosure.

6) Barracks for student pilots only; three stories; roof with tile gutters; camouflaged walls.

First floor: 3 class-rooms

Second floor: Two offices (personnel office); NCOs' and student pilots' mess; five sleeping rooms.

Third floor: Damaged; being repaired.

7) Three-story building, heavily damaged; not being repaired.

8) Three-story barracks; roof with tile gutters; yellow walls; classrooms and living quarters of student specialists; dimensions 120 x 25 m.

9) Kitchen for mess of student specialists.

10) One-story structure used as garage.

11) Masonry structure 120 x 50 m; divided into three sections organized as workshops.

12) Army motor park.

13) Underground reserve fuel depot; surrounded by barbed wire.

3. The First Air Training Center (1. Rópülő Kiképző Osztály) is stationed at this field. This is the first center of this type that was established in Hungary after the war. It is a training center for non-commissioned officers and specialists. The center was set up in October 1948 and the school in December of that year.

4. The circa 520 students are assigned as follows to the various training courses:

pilot training	120 student pilots
radio - telegraphers	200 students
photographers	100 students
engine mechanics and armorers	100 students

5. The training period of pilot students is approximately three years. The pilot students form a company of three forty-man platoons under the command of a non-commissioned officer.

6. The students are issued uniforms and a long-barrelled Russian repeater rifle for a five-round clip. The rifle has a rectangular, fixed, folding bayonet. The ammunition clips have not been issued.

7. There is no great flying activity on the field. Flying is limited to 10 to 12 flights per week by officers and non-commissioned officers, occasionally accompanied by single student pilots as passengers. The flights are made in An-2 craft. Late in January 1949, the Ministry of Defense issued an order prohibiting flying activities to all students not members of the Communist Party.

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8. The garage, a one-story masonry building, houses the following vehicles:

One 50-man personnel carrier, possibly of Canadian origin

One reconnaissance car

Two "jeeps"

9. Approximately 100 aircraft of the following types are housed in the hangars:

Arado	approximately	20
Bessman	"	20
Bücker	"	20
Russian aircraft (unidentified)	"	40

10. The Bessman craft carry two seats abreast; they are monoplanes of mixed wood and aluminum structure covered with canvas, fitted with a six-cylinder inline engine, fixed landing gear, twin-blade wooden propeller with variable pitch, a direction rudder, and are unarmed.

11. The Russian craft are gull-wing single-engine monoplanes. They carry two seats in tandem and have fixed landing gear. The structure is aluminum covered with canvas. They are fitted with a twin-blade propeller and are unarmed.

12. The Bücker and Russian planes

The craft are painted a khaki color. The Arado and Bessman craft are painted grey and bear no inscription. The top of the wings and the tail assembly of all craft bear the national colors; on the wing, by three concentric circles, the outer one of which is red, the center one white, and the inner one green; the circles are enclosed in a green triangle. On the tail assembly there are three vertical stripes in the same colors.

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13. On the airfield there is a glider training school for civilians. Training takes place on Sunday afternoons. There are approximately 30 civilians attending this course. Two gliders for this training course are kept at the field and a mobile winch is brought from town for the training operations.

14. Thirty percent of the trainees are Communist sympathizers. There is no Russian commission attached permanently to the airfield. Commissions composed of three Russian officers and three Hungarian air force officers visit the field once or twice a month.

Pécs Airfield

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15. The Pécs airfield is located on the west-southwest periphery of the city, between the road and the Pécs-Szent Lőrinc railroad. On 16 February 1948, there was no military unit stationed at the field; a small partisan group was maintained at the field.

16. Plan of airfield

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- 1) Main entrance
- 2) Masonry three-story structure
- 3) Destroyed masonry hangar

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- 4) Semi-destroyed barracks
 - 5) Secondary entrance
 - 6) Small 4 x 5 m structure with two towers with sheet-iron minaret roofs.
 - 7) University athletic field
17. The flying field measures 1,000 x 500 m and on the north is enclosed by a wall 1.5 m high.

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